

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 8 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 9, 10 and 12 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An ink-jet recording medium having at least a light-reflecting layer and a dye-fixing layer formed in this order on a base material in a multilayer structure, wherein the light-reflecting layer contains two or more pigments different in chemical composition, ~~and~~ wherein the average particle size of a pigment (A) having a highest liquid absorbency in the pigments is smaller than the average particle size of a pigment (B) having a lowest liquid absorbency in the pigments, and wherein the dye-fixing layer comprises not less than 70 mass percent alumina hydrate particles.

2. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the pigment (A) has an average particle size of not larger than 1 μm , and the pigment (B) has an average particle size ranging from 0.5 μm to 10 μm .

3. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the pigment (A) has an average particle size of not larger than 0.5 μm , and the pigment (B) has an average particle size ranging from 0.5 μm to 5 μm .

4. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the light-reflecting layer is directly formed on the base material.

5. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the pigment
(A) is an aluminum pigment.

6. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the pigment
(B) has a refractive index of not less than 1.6.

7. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the pigment
(B) is barium sulfate.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The recording medium according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, wherein the dye-fixing layer serves as a recording face and has a 20°-glossiness of not lower than 20%.

10. (Currently Amended) An ink-jet recording medium having at least a light-reflecting layer and a dye-fixing layer formed in this order on a base material in a multilayer structure, wherein the light-reflecting layer contains an aluminum pigment and barium sulfate, and wherein the average particle size of the aluminum pigment is smaller than the average

particle size of the barium sulfate, and the surface of the dye-fixing layer has a 20°-glossiness of not less than 20%, and wherein the dye-fixing layer comprises not less than 70 mass percent alumina hydrate particles.

11. (Original) An ink-jet recording medium having at least a light-reflecting layer and a dye-fixing layer formed in this order on a base material in a multilayer structure, wherein the light-reflecting layer contains an aluminum pigment and a silica pigment, and wherein the average particle size of the aluminum pigment is smaller than the average particle size of the silica pigment, and the surface of the dye-fixing layer has a 20°-glossiness of not less than 20%.

12. (Currently Amended) An image forming method, comprising a step of conducting recording on the recording medium according to ~~any of claims 1, 10, and 11~~ claim 1 by an ink-jet recording system.

13. (Withdrawn) A process for producing the recording medium according to claim 1 having at least a light-reflecting layer and a dye-fixing layer formed in this order on a base material in a multilayer structure, said process comprising applying a first coating liquid containing two or more pigments different in chemical composition onto the base material to form a light-reflecting layer, applying a second coating liquid containing alumina hydrate particles onto the light-reflecting layer to form a dye-fixing layer, and swelling the dye-fixing

layer followed by pressing a surface thereof against a heated smooth face to conduct drying treatment.